

This English course is designed to support Shrewsbury High School's "Mission Statement" and targets the following specific student expectations by providing opportunities for students to:

- Fulfill individual academic potential. (#1)
- Develop and apply critical and creative thinking skills. (#2)
- Develop competency in the use of information and technology. (#5)
- Formulate and express opinions supported by facts and data in effective presentations. (#6)
- Demonstrate effective reading, speaking, writing, and listening skills. (#7)
- Participate in collaborative and cooperative learning. (#8)
- Demonstrate self-discipline and personal responsibility for learning. (#9)

Title: English 9B

Course Description:

English 9B is a Freshman English course designed to improve the student's writing skills and to introduce the student to a variety of short stories, poems, nonfiction, and plays, including Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. In addition, students will read, discuss, and write about Greek mythology, including descriptions of the gods and goddesses and the stories of Prometheus, Apollo, and, Echo and Narcissus. Students will study pages 69-112 in Vocabulary for the High School Student. Spelling will focus on commonly misspelled homonyms, including those listed on pp. 860-861 of Elements of Writing. The study of English grammar will focus on parts of speech, parts of the sentence, and writing complete sentences. Writing begins with the review of the paragraph and progresses up to a five paragraph essay format.

One quarter of the course (4th) will focus on oral communication skills.

This course functions as a college level course but features smaller class sizes and more individualized learning experiences.

Expectations:

- A. Students will be able to identify point of view, theme, character, plot, and setting in short stories.
- B. Students will be able to identify figures of speech, tone, theme, imagery, and rhyme in poetry.
- C. Students will be able to identify figures of speech, characters, and plot in Romeo and Juliet.
- D. Students will be able to produce single and multi-paragraph writings, including the five paragraph essay form and answers to open response questions that show mastery of the writing competencies. (See "Scope and Sequence of Writing Skills.")
- E. Students will be introduced to active reading strategies such as notetaking, bookmarking and annotating text.
- F. Students will be able to use and spell all homonyms and new vocabulary correctly in their writing.
- G. Students will read 4 books outside of class.

- H. Students will be able to prepare and deliver a speech. (See the course description for the Freshman Communications Course.)

Units: *(Please note that reading, writing, speaking, listening and thinking skills are taught in relation to all units.)*

A. Grammar and Writing

- Part II: Chpt. 14: The Parts of Speech
(nouns, verbs, adjectives, personal pronouns, prepositions)
Chpt. 15: The Parts of a Sentence
The Prepositional Phrase (pp.533-535)
- Part I: Chpt. 11: Writing Complete Sentences
- Part I: Chpt. 2: Understanding Paragraph Structure, 62
(Teach the sentence and the paragraph in the context of writing, referring to the grammar book when necessary.)

B. Communication Skills (See course description for the Freshman Communication Course.)

C. Literature: Prentice Hall Literature - Gold
Unit 1- Part 1 "In Suspense"

"The Most Dangerous Game"
"Casey at the Bat"
from "I Had a Hammer"
"The Birds"

Unit 2- Part 1 "For the Good of All"

"I Have a Dream"
"Pride (In the Name of Love)"
from "Rosa Parks: My Story"
"There is a Longing"
" I Hear America Singing"
"The Golden Kite, the Silver Wind"

Unit 3- Part 2 "Learning About Ourselves and Others"

"The Interlopers"
"The Rug Merchant"
"Combing"
"Women"
"maggie and milly and molly and may"
"Astonishment"

Unit 6- Selections from Part 1 "Plot Character and Point of View" and Part 2 "Setting and Theme"

"The Gift of the Magi"

"The Scarlet Ibis"
"Blues Ain't no Mockin Bird"
"The Man to Send Rain Clouds"

Unit 7- Part 1 "Essays and Personal Accounts"

"The Washwoman"
"A Celebration of Grandfathers"
"Arthur Ashe Remembered"

Unit 8-

Part 2 "History and Traditions"
Romeo and Juliet

D. Vocabulary

- Pages 69-112 in Vocabulary for the High School Student

E. Multicultural novel:

- The House on Mango Street (Cisneros)

F. Other required novels:

- Ransom (Duncan)
- Kit's Wilderness (Almond) or Skellig (Almond)
- The Executioner (Bennett)

Materials:

Elements of Writing Kinneavy and Warriner (3rd Course)
Prentice Hall Literature - Gold
Greek Myths and Heroes (Section I)
Vocabulary for the High School Student

Assessment:

- Teacher-made and standardized tests and quizzes
- Department semester final exam / final assessment project
- Teacher and student evaluation of compositions, including outside reading reports and periodic analysis of cumulative writing folders
- Reading Record Cards
- Teacher and student evaluation of several speeches
- Small group discussion
- Authentic assessment projects and activities
- Homework assignments

